

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application as presently amended and in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-18 are pending in the present application. Claims 1, 4-8 and 11-14 are amended by the present response to improve clarity and overcome the §101 rejection. In addition, Claims 15-18 were added. Support for amendments and additions to the claims can be found in the disclosure as originally filed. Thus, no new matter is added.

In the outstanding Action, Claim 14 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §101 as directed to non-statutory subject matter; and Claims 1-13 were allowed.

With respect to the rejection of Claim 14 under 35 U.S.C. §101 as directed to non-statutory subject matter, Claim 14 has been amended to overcome the rejection. Specifically, Claim 14 has been amended to recite a statutory computer readable medium. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of Claim 14 under 35 U.S.C. §101 be withdrawn.

With respect to the amendments to Claims 1, 4-8 and 11-14, Applicants respectfully submit that these claims have been amended to improve clarity. Applicants believe that amended Claims 1, 4-8 and 11-14 are allowable for at least the reasons for which unamended Claims 1-14 were found allowable.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that Claims 1, 4-8 and 11-14 are allowable.

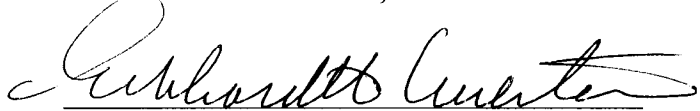
With regard to newly added Claims 15-18, Applicants note that Claim 15 depends on Claim 8. Moreover, with regard to Claims 16-18, Applicants note that independent Claims 16 and 17, and Claim 18 depending respectively therefrom, are allowable as well.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that Claims 1-18 are in condition for formal allowance.

Consequently, in light of the above discussion and in view of the present amendment, the application is believed to be in condition for formal allowance. An early and favorable action to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Eckhard H. Kuesters', written over a horizontal line.

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